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## Ole Miss students help tornado-ravaged Illinois town



PHOTO COURTESY ETHAN ALEXANDER

Ole Miss Kappa Sigma students (LEFT TO RIGHT) Jonathan Davis, Dillon Widdows and Ethan Alexander. The trio went to Harrisburg, Ill., this past weekend to help clean up after a category F4 tornado hit the town.

BY HOUSTON BROCK  
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There's not much left in the tornado-stricken town of Harrisburg, Ill. Homes and buildings that once stood in the small town were wiped out by a vicious twister that hit last Wednesday, Feb. 29.

Among the debris stood three University of Mississippi students: Ethan Alexander, Jonathan Davis and Dillon Widdows. The three

students made the 321-mile drive to Harrisburg this past weekend to deliver nearly three tons of water and offer their help.

Alexander, a Harrisburg native, found out soon after the tornado hit that four of his family members had their homes leveled by the 170-mph winds. He immediately reached out to his friends and fraternity brothers asking for assistance and/or donations.

In an effort to help, Alexander

was joined by his Kappa Sigma fraternity brothers Davis and Widdows in Harrisburg. Rebuilding a community is nothing new for Davis and Widdows, who have experienced natural disasters of their own.

Davis, a resident of Yazoo City, had his hometown hit by a tornado three years ago and left the experience more humble than before.

"I saw how helpful it was when

people from out of state help," he said. "I felt like since I had the opportunity to help, I should take advantage of it."

Widdows was a resident of Ocean Springs when Hurricane Katrina ripped through the Gulf Coast. He said he later learned that the people of Harrisburg sent aid to the victims of Katrina, which inspired him to help more.

After dropping off a truckload of water late Friday afternoon,

the three students went to work on Alexander's aunt's house on Saturday.

Her roof had completely flown off into her backyard and smashed into the roots of a tree. They spent most of the day clearing the debris from the roof and salvaging any furniture she had left.

They weren't the only ones helping, Alexander said there were about 3,000 people driving around looking for victims to help.

Widdows said the people of Harrisburg were amazing and they all helped each other rebuild like a big family.

"They were joking and laughing, trying to make the mood lighter by being extremely pleasant," he said. "There was a synergy that's very unique to disasters."

The visit to Harrisburg was not all smiles, though. Westboro Baptist Church protested the deaths of those involved in the tornado. A post on the church's website reads, "Hallelujah! God sent an F-4 Tornado Ripping Through Harrisburg Illinois!"

Alexander said this only compelled the community to come together more. Thousands of people gathered together at the funeral homes to block the view of the protesters during the funerals.

"My community has always been a very strong one," he said. "I've never seen them come together more than that."

To help donate or volunteer, contact Ethan Alexander at ethan92@gmail.com for more information.

## Oxford to celebrate its 175th birthday this year

BY MARY KELLEY ZELESKEY  
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This year, the city of Oxford will celebrate its 175th birthday. The anniversary celebration will kick off at the beginning of the Double Decker Festival, April 27-28, and last until the July 4.

Mayor Pat Patterson, who is involved with planning events for the celebration with the directors of tourism in Oxford, said it is an honor to be mayor during this exciting time.

Some of the plans include the expansion of certain events during the Double Decker Festival, as well as a larger fireworks display than usual. There is also the possibility of a concert on July 4.

"The biggest celebration will be in conjunction with the Double Decker Festival," said Mary Kathryn Herrington, Oxford director of tourism

and marketing. "We've expanded our music on Saturday hoping to reach a larger audience."

The town has received several contributions from the University of Mississippi to help plan the celebration. Patterson said the university, Chancellor Dan Jones and executive assistant to the chancellor Andy Mullins were the first people to step up and make a contribution to the event.

"The school has grown and the town has grown, so I think our association with Ole Miss and the way that our relationship has grown and prospered is a great thing," Patterson said.

There are plans of updating some of the historical markers around Oxford and banners have been put up around the Square to commemorate the 175th anniversary.

"I think our history is part

of what makes us a unique town," Herrington said. "Our history certainly attracts people to visit Oxford, so from a tourism perspective, I think it is important to always remember it."

Oxford was incorporated in May 1837 and was built on land previously owned by people of the Chickasaw Indian Nation, according to the Oxford Convention and Visitors Bureau website. Lafayette County was created in February 1836, named for Marquis de Lafayette, a French aristocrat who fought during the Revolutionary War.

While Oxford may be most known for the events centering around the Civil War and the Civil Rights Movement, the town has also been the home of several prominent people, including Nobel Prize-winning author William Faulkner.

Tourists are also attracted



INFOGRAPHIC BY CAIN MADDEN | The Daily Mississippian

to Oxford by events like the Double Decker Festival and the Oxford Film Festival, as well as articles about the town in different magazines and newspapers across the nation, including "Southern Living"

and The New York Times.

"I think (the celebration) is a neat thing to do, just to kind of step back for a minute, take a breath, look at where you are and look at where you come from," Patterson said.



THURSDAY FACE-OFF

Each Thursday, The DM pits one columnist against another. This week we focus on food sales tax.

Sales tax on food harmful to less well-off Mississippians



BY JAY NOGAMI  
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Groceries in Mississippi should not be subject to full sales tax. Taxing essential items like food is, simply put, the most regressive existing form of taxation. Currently in Mississippi, groceries are taxed at full sales tax rates, which is 7 percent. Only one other state in the nation, Alabama, charges full sales tax on groceries. In recent years, other poor states, including Arkansas and South Carolina, have moved away from the extremely re-

gressive sales tax on groceries. All told, 30 other states completely exempt groceries as taxable goods. Every family has to eat. It doesn't matter if you're rich or poor, you need to put food on the table. Eating isn't a luxury. And by taxing groceries, you are pushing the tax burden onto those who already struggle to get by. Sales tax on food is inherently regressive. When food is taxed at high rates, it means poorer Mississippians must pay a higher percentage of their earnings as taxes. It is not fair that the poor in Mississippi should be forced to shoulder the burden of taxation in Mississippi. As an example, two households might each spend \$1,000 a year on groceries. If

the household has an income of \$7,000, this means they spend 1 percent of their income on sales tax for food. A richer household could easily earn \$70,000 annually, meaning they only spent one tenth of 1 percent of their income on the same tax. The current system is one designed to hurt the poorest of Mississippians. In Mississippi, 17.1 percent of households suffer from food insecurity. This means nearly one in five households live in hunger or are uncertain about when they will have their next meal. There are many severe health problems associated with food insecurity, one of which is obesity. Decreasing the sales tax on food could help create a more healthy Mississippi. Additionally, sales tax on

groceries is not a good source of income for a state. When Mississippi's economy grows, there is very little additional spending on food. Moving the tax burden away from groceries and onto incomes will allow more funding for Mississippi when our economy grows. Moving taxation away from groceries and onto incomes would be a great way to help out the poorest Mississippians while still maintaining adequate funding for the state government. Currently in Mississippi, the top tax bracket is for those earning more than \$10,000 annually. It makes little sense that people who earn \$10,000 should pay the same percentage of taxes as those who earn six or more figures. Creating new tax

brackets would allow the state to create new revenue without hurting its citizens. When you don't have a high income, it is very hard to make ends meet. Making it easier to buy bigger quantities of healthier foods is a great step toward creating a better Mississippi. There are many alternate routes for funding in the state, ranging from income tax as mentioned above to taxation on services at similar rates to goods. In 2009, Gov. Barbour pledged to veto a bill that would have lowered the sales tax on food. With a new governor, now is the time to take action.

*Jay Nogami is a sophomore public policy leadership major from Denver, Colo. Follow him on Twitter @JayTNogami.*

Cutting grocery tax does more harm than good



BY TRENTON WINFORD  
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In Mississippi, it seems that just about every year there is a movement to cut the grocery tax. The Mississippi grocery tax, though, actually isn't a grocery tax. It is simply the sales tax that applies equally to sales of food for consumption in the home. The 7 percent applies to the purchase of groceries as equally as it does to the purchase of any good. I seem to be missing the unfairness in that.

The main argument backing an exemption of groceries from sales tax stems from a desire to ease the cost of groceries for low-income families. While it is admirable to want to ease the cost for low-income families, supporters seem to forget that Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits are tax-exempt, meaning the grocery tax already does not apply to low-income families. Therefore, only mid- and high-income families will feel the effect of eliminating the sales tax for groceries. Of course, everyone wants to pay fewer taxes, so many unwittingly support the idea of exempting groceries. A 2008 report by the Southern

Agricultural Economics Association estimated that Mississippi would lose around \$202 million in tax revenue. Where do supporters suggest Mississippi make that revenue up? Should we increase other taxes to make up \$202 million? If so, how is that really helping anyone? I would prefer to pay 7 percent on groceries than have my income tax increase because I have control over how much I spend on groceries. Ultimately, the debate over the grocery tax boils down to cost and benefits. The cost for the state is obvious: net loss of \$202 million in revenue. The benefits on the other hand are not easy to find. Families will have more money to spend, but

will they spend that money on more groceries or items that can be taxed? If they spend it on other items that can be taxed, are they really receiving a tax break? No. Instead, it is just a tax shift. Families will still be bearing the burden of a tax if they choose to spend the money elsewhere. The state of Mississippi is at a point where revenue is desperately needed. Any attempt to cut taxes in a way that won't stimulate the economy is not only pointless but also detrimental to the state and the citizens of the state. Eliminating the sales tax for groceries does far more harm for the state and citizens than good. The costs greatly outweigh the benefits.

Many might point out that Mississippi is one of few states that taxes groceries and that the state has the highest grocery tax rate of all states. However, they will fail to point out that Mississippi also ranks near the bottom of income tax revenue. Other states can survive without the revenue from a grocery tax because they bring in more revenue from other taxes and fees. The grocery tax is a necessity in Mississippi and because low-income families on SNAP benefits are already exempt from this tax, the support for elimination of the grocery tax falls on its head. *Trenton Winford is a sophomore public policy leadership major from Madison.*

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Letters should be typed, double-spaced and no longer than 300 words. Third party letters and those bearing pseudonyms, pen names or "name withheld" will not be published. Publication is limited to one letter per individual per calendar month.  
Student submissions must include grade classification and major. All submissions must be turned in at least three days in advance of date of desired publication.



# Let's talk about sex trafficking



BY MEGAN MASSEY  
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Slowly but surely, attention is being drawn to an issue that many of us are uncomfortable thinking about. Sex trafficking is a difficult subject. No one wants to think about anyone being forced into slavery in any form, let alone sex slavery. And the fact that children and runaway girls are preyed on by human traffickers makes the topic that much more painful. But I can't help but feel that 50 years from now, people will look

back and wonder why it took so long for us to start caring in the same way that we look back on the slavery of blacks and the injustices they suffered during segregation and ask the same question.

Today, there are more slaves in the world than there have ever been at any point in history — an estimated 27 million. Eighty percent of those being trafficked are women and children, and around 50 percent are minors. We're quick to say this is terrible, but surely it doesn't happen in the United States, the land of the free. But 200,000 American children have been victims of sex trade; 12 years old is the average age of these children living in our backyards, or, more accurately,

on our streets.

Slavery is not a problem of our past; it is a very real problem of our present. Cities not so far away from us like Atlanta and Dallas are experiencing this problem. But here we sit in our quaint college town, mostly ignorant of it, content not to think about it.

I'm not scolding you. I'm the same way. I don't want to think about people my little sister's age being forced to do things that no one should ever have to do. The loss of innocence makes me physically ill; the sadness can be overwhelming, and all too often I allow myself to feel helpless. What can I do? I'm 20 years old and have little to no influence in this world.

Again, I'm not scolding you,

but I am gently prodding you to be aware and to be active.

Lucky for us, there are some people bringing their A-game to defeat this modern-day atrocity. In January at the Christian student conference called the Passion Conference, a bunch of 20-year-olds raised \$3 million to combat sex trafficking. Organizations like Streetlight USA and Abolition International are fighting to not only raise awareness about sex slavery, but also to provide restoration for victims by creating a safe place for them to stay and employment opportunities. Then there's the small group of student photo-journalists who saw a problem and instead of throwing their hands up, dove in head first.

These five students created the film titled "Sex and Money" and took a 50-state tour last year screening their film and raising awareness.

This problem is huge. It would be a travesty to ignore one person experiencing this, and there are 27 million ... 27 million. We cannot sit back and let this continue to happen. For the sake of our little sisters, the kids we babysit, our friends and, hell, for our own sakes, this has to stop. Educate yourself and join the fight. It's far from over; it's only just beginning.

*Megan Massey is a junior religious studies major from Mount Olive. Follow her on Twitter @megan\_massey.*

## Letter to the Editor

### To the editor,

I'm writing this in response to the letter that appeared in the Feb. 29, 2012, DM by Dr. Willa Johnson about gun control on campus. There are several fallacies in the doctor's arguments that I would like to point out, along with some rebuttals.

First, she asks us to consider what would happen if students were allowed to bring guns onto campus and the potentially deadly consequences. Fortunately, we don't have to imagine what that would be like: There are currently 25 colleges and universities in the United States that allow the concealed carrying of handguns, and I'm not aware of any Wild West shootouts at those places. In our very own state we have an example of a school faculty member stopping a school shooter. In 1997 a student opened fire at Pearl High School. Upon hearing the shots, vice principal Joel Myrick ran out to his truck to retrieve his handgun and confronted the student, holding him at gunpoint until police arrived. Nine students were shot in the time it took Myrick to retrieve his handgun, since he was not allowed to carry it. Imagine how that day might have turned out if Mr. Myrick or another faculty member had had their weapon with them.

Secondly, Dr. Johnson seems to imply that a ban on guns in vehicles would prevent a student from going on a rampage. Guns are banned in a lot of places where shootings occur anyway, including the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C., where she personally witnessed a shooting. Given that she witnessed an individual defy a gun-free zone to kill people, I'm puzzled how she could advocate more of these gun-free areas. A person determined to kill people

is not going to let some words on a sign stop them.

The third fallacy I would like to point out is her approval of only trained professionals carrying firearms. We have historical evidence of the consequences of a disarmed public, and I find this especially troubling since Dr. Johnson specializes in Jewish history, especially during the Holocaust. The 1938 German Weapons Act specifically banned Jews from owning firearms. Everyone knows the history of the Jews in Germany afterward. We also have a more recent example: In 1991, the UN passed Security Council Resolution 713, which banned the sale of firearms to Yugoslavia. In 1995, Serb forces entered the "UN Protected Safe Zone" around the town Srebrenica without resistance and massacred the unarmed refugees there. Years later in 1999, a peacekeeper related to Dave Kopel of The National Review this exchange: "In response to the statement that the UN believes that only the police and military should have guns, a Bosnian exasperatedly asked 'Who do you think killed everyone?'"

I'll end my response by pointing to the research of Professor John Lott, who wrote the book "More Guns, Less Crime," documenting the relationship between relaxed gun laws and crime rates. If a more dramatic example is required, look up the crime rates in Switzerland, where every adult male is issued an assault rifle and handguns are easily available, and compare it with nearby Great Britain, with some of the most restrictive gun laws in the world. I think the numbers will speak for themselves.

-Matthew Nichols  
Accounting major

### UWIRE

## Immerse yourself when studying abroad

BY BERNADETTE MYERS

University Daily Kansan, U. Kansas

As students go off to college, many receive their first credit card and are faced with the challenge of learning how to manage their own money. If anything is to be said about this, responsibility is a must, especially if it comes in the form of a little plastic card.

For a college student, receiving a credit card can be glorious. It gives you the option to spend money without cold hard cash in your hand. Although this is true, the word "credit card" means more than just a piece of plastic.

"Credit is a situation where one person or one organization loans money to somebody else," said Kathy Sweedler, a consumer economics educator through the University of Illinois Extension Office.

Kevin Waspi, UI lecturer in finance, defines it simply as "the ability to have access to other people's money."

Using borrowed money can be dangerous, especially for students who are just jumping into the pool of financial responsibility, but obtaining a credit card is a good learning experience.

"(A credit card) gives you an opportunity to practice using credit," Sweedler said. "Remembering to pay your bill, making decisions about when you want to use your credit card and when you don't want to use it — those are all things that take practice."

Ryan Maes and Mike Ferak, seniors business majors and peer educators in the Financial Wellness Center, both agree that college students should have credit cards.

"Building credit is extremely important in college because you're building a credit history and credit report," Maes said.

With a better credit score, students will have more opportunities to make bigger purchases in the future, such as a car or a house. Ferak says that not having credit will make it difficult to make large purchases.

Besides considering future purchases, those thinking about becoming credit card holders should also be aware that some people have a harder time managing their money than others, depending on their spending habits.

Waspi and Ferak agree that getting a credit card does not mean that a last-minute person will become instantly responsible — and in the credit world, this translates to one thing: late fees.

"It's true that you can buy things that you don't have cash

for right then, and that can be a problem for some people," Sweedler said. "If you're getting a new credit card, this is something to be aware of. Think, 'How will I pay this when the bill comes?'"

Despite the setbacks, a credit card can help when people are in a financial bind.

"In the event of an emergency, you have money as needed," Maes said.

Emergency or not, the decisions you make about your spending now are the ultimate testament to your ability to build up good credit in the future.

Understanding financial responsibility in college can help you make the most out of that powerful piece of plastic, wherever your future endeavors take you.



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Thousands of post offices subject to close



PHILLIP WALLER | The Daily Mississippian  
An Ole Miss student is sending a package via the U.S. Post Office. Post offices around the country are shutting down due to lack of profits because of competition coming from Internet-based delivery companies.

BY DANE MORETON  
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Companies are in business to make money, and the U.S. Post Office is no exception. In the past six years, first-class mail has dropped by 25 percent, thanks to the growth of the Internet and competing mail delivery services. Because of this loss in revenue, many post offices with dwindling dollar signs may close shop. Doug Kyle, spokesperson for the Mississippi Postal Service district, said there have been post offices reviews. “What brought about the review of many of those offices is (that the) volume of mail and volume of revenue that was associated with those offices had dropped to a level where service could be provided reasonably from some other source,” Kyle said. As many as 3,830 post offices are on the chopping block, two-thirds of which have less than \$27,500 in annual sales, and roughly 90 percent of those offices are in rural areas.

Some post offices are coping with the revenue drop by cutting their business hours. If it costs more to keep a post office open for two hours than the amount of revenue it receives, there is a high probability that it may be under consideration for closure. Kyle said customers in smaller communities could be serviced by a rural carrier who can provide nearly everything one could get at a small post office. This is one solution for those who may feel slighted by the closings. The University of Mississippi post office is frequented by undergrads who live on campus. Landon Voyte, 21, a psychology and Spanish major, rarely visits the university post office. He said he used the Oxford location to get his passport and visa. “It would be inconvenient from time to time, but really not regularly,” Voyte said. Pharmacy student Katie Shackelford, 21, is about to move off campus, where a university post office closing would mean little. Shackelford uses

the location once every three to four months to receive packages from her mother. “It would be harder for her to mail me stuff,” Shackelford said. “I would have to go to another post office or she would have to mail it to one of my friends’ houses.” Several senators have requested a moratorium that will delay any action until May 15 of this year. They are considering their constituents as well as federal law, which requires the U.S. Postal Service to provide “a maximum degree of effective and regular postal services” to small towns and rural areas. In addition to post office closings, there are also consolidations of distribution sites being considered. Four Mississippi sites could be absorbed by other locations. Tupelo distribution would go to Memphis, Grenada to Jackson and Hattiesburg and Gulfport to Mobile. This would not change any retail or delivery function, but it would change the first-class mail from a one-, two- and three-day standard to a two- and three-day standard.

Brown Bag Lecture honors Alabama civil rights march

BY CHARLES HALE ROBINSON  
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Wednesday marked the 47th anniversary of the day John Lewis was beaten by law enforcement in Selma, Ala., for protesting for his right to vote. Associate professor Barbara Harris Combs spoke yesterday at the Barnard Observatory at the University of Mississippi for the weekly Southern Studies Brown Bag Lunch and Lecture about “Bloody Sunday” and the 54-mile march that led to the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Combs attended a commemoration held in Selma this past weekend to honor the protesters and shared her experience with the audience. “It made me very proud of those Americans, black and white, who came out to march and protest against the treatment of blacks,” she said. “But it made me particularly proud as an African-American woman to be part of that history and legacy. Truly, these people sacrificed so that you and I could have this quality of life today.” Combs said she is in the process of writing a book to be titled “Selma to Montgomery: The Long March to Freedom,” which will focus less on political figures or nationally known characters and more on the average people who were forced to stay and endure the aftermath of the protests. “The more I looked at this, the more I realized that the voting rights march, the Selma campaign, was actually a critical moment in American history,” Combs said. “It’s one of what we call watershed moments. It’s the divide between one period and the next.” The Southern Studies Brown Bag Lunch and Lecture Series takes place each Wednesday at noon in the lecture hall of Barnard Observatory.

Delay in ‘Admissions’

BY BRACEY HARRIS  
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The production company behind “Admissions” has been given the green light to film in Oxford, and the University of Mississippi may be a potential location. The movie, starring Andy Garcia, focuses on a man and woman who fall in love while taking their kids on a university tour. Andy Harper, director of the Media and Documentary Projects Center and instructional assistant professor of Southern studies and journalism, said in an email to The Daily Mississippian that the university has worked with the production company to minimize any impact to parking or other facilities. He said the production

company has been more than willing to work around the university schedule. Harper said the film production is a natural complement to the opportunities already provided for students through the new cinema minor, the master of fine arts program and the Media and Documentary Project Center. Harper also said shooting has not occurred on campus and the company is still locking in production dates. In the past, movies filmed in Oxford, like “Heart of Dixie,” have brought attention to the city and the campus. “We’ve clearly seen in the past (that) films that have been shot here have provided a boost to the economy,” said Oxford Mayor Pat Patterson. “It’s a beautiful place.”

Phi  
Ma

Congratulates  
Paige Dineen  
on Winning  
Ole Miss Idol!



No. 16 Rebels Netters lose 4-3 nail-biter to No. 3 Virginia

BY MATT SIGLER  
mcsigler@olemiss.edu

The No. 14 Ole Miss men's tennis team swept the doubles matches yesterday and led 3-0 after wins by freshmen William Kallberg and Nik Scholtz in singles play, but fell short in a heartbreaking match to No. 3 Virginia 4-3 Wednesday at the Palmer/Salloum Tennis Center/Galtney Courts.

The Cavaliers rallied with three straight singles wins, and sophomore Justin Shane, the No. 72 player in the nation, outlasted 97th-ranked senior Chris Thiemann 4-6, 6-3, 7-6(4) in a third-set tiebreaker. The match had been circled on the calendar for a while and the thought of letting it slip away was devastating to the team.

"It scares me to think of how big this opportunity was," freshman Nik Scholtz said. "It breaks my heart that we couldn't take it. It is one thing to lose, but it's another thing to lose when you're in position to win."

The Rebels came out swinging in doubles play and swept the Cavaliers to earn the point. Kallberg and sophomore Johan Backstrom got things started at No. 3 doubles with an 8-6 win. Scholtz and junior Jonas Lutjen upset the 60th-ranked doubles team of

Alex Domijan and Steven Eelkman Rooda, clinching the double point with an 8-6 win at court two. Then, in a matchup of top-20 doubles teams, 18th-ranked Marcel and Chris Thiemann defeated 13th-ranked Drew Courtney and Jarmere Jenkins 8-6 on court two to complete the sweep.

Ole Miss carried the momentum from doubles into the singles matches, where the Rebels won the first set in five of the six matches, most notably 48th-ranked Lutjen who won 6-1 against the No. 1 singles player in the nation, freshman Mitchell Frank.

The 49th-ranked Kallberg closed out his match 6-1, 6-4 against Philippe Oudshoorn at No. 4 singles, and 55th-ranked Scholtz did likewise 6-3, 6-4 against 53rd-ranked Domijan at No. 1 singles. Ole Miss dropped the second sets in three of those five matches to force a third set while Backstrom battled back to force a third set at No. 6 singles.

Lutjen, who won 6-1 in the first set, hung tough in the second set until suffering a calf injury, according to head coach Billy Chadwick. Frank made quick work in third set to win 1-6, 6-4, 6-1 at No. 3 singles. Virginia added another point when the No. 8 singles player in the nation, junior Jarmere Jen-



AUSTIN MCAFEE | The Daily Mississippian  
55th-ranked Nik Scholtz returns serve against No. 3 Virginia. Scholtz paired with junior Jonas Lutjen to clinch the doubles point and won in straight sets 6-3, 6-4 at No. 1 singles.

kins, defeated 46th-ranked senior Marcel Thiemann in a thriller at No. 2 singles, 2-6, 6-4, 6-4.

"It was an extremely exciting match," Chadwick said. "It is one of those where it comes down to one or two hits of the ball and Jenkins played well."

Virginia tied the match when junior Julien Uriguen defeated Backstrom 7-5, 3-6, 6-3 at No. 6 singles. The match then fell on the shoulder of Chris Thiemann for Ole Miss at No. 5 singles.

Thiemann won the first set 6-4 against Shane, but lost the second 3-6. Thiemann trailed 4-1 and, then, 5-2 in the third set, but rallied to win four straight games to make it 6-5. He served for the match, but was broken by Shane. The match went into a tiebreaker, first to seven points with a minimum two-point lead. It was back and forth, but Shane won three straight points to close out the tiebreaker, 7-4, and the match 4-6, 6-3, 7-6(4).

BASKETBALL,  
continued from page 8

"Ole Miss is a fantastic team," Auburn Head Coach Tony Barbee said Wednesday afternoon. "They're as big and as physical as any team in this league. Even though we matched up fairly well with them in both games this year, they were both games down to the wire, and so I wouldn't expect anything less tomorrow."

One of the keys for the Rebels Thursday will be the involvement of Holloway.

"What he really does well is offensive rebounding," Barbee said of Holloway. "So we're going to have our hands full with not just him with their entire front line, and I think that mixing up the defenses, changing the defenses is in our two matchups has kept them off balance."

While Holloway was unavailable for the first meeting, he returned for the rematch in Oxford and was a difference maker in the game. He brought the Rebels back from a deficit early in the second half with a 12-0 run by himself, single-handedly giving the Rebels the lead, and finished with 20 points and 11 rebounds.

The game will be televised on the SEC Network.

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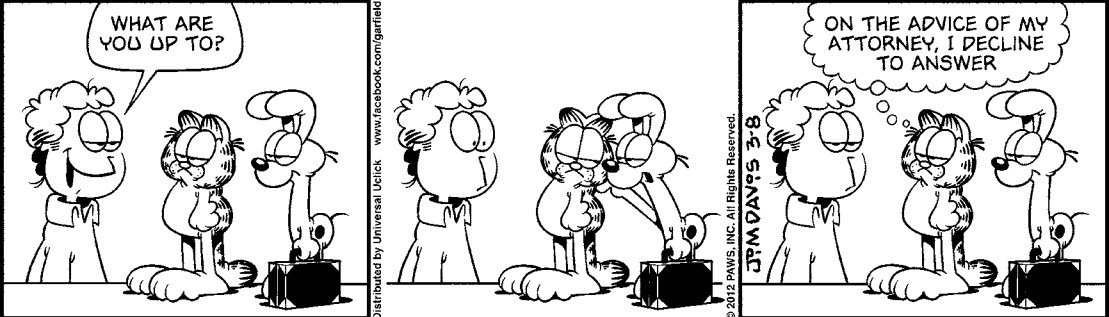
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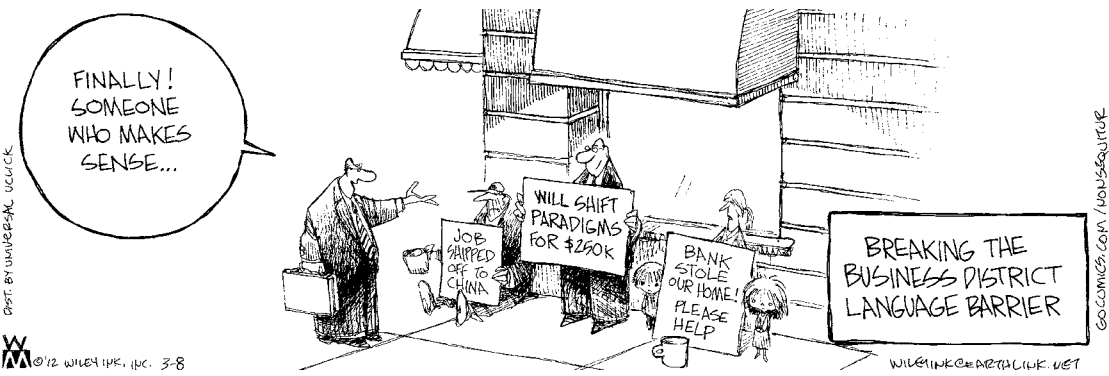
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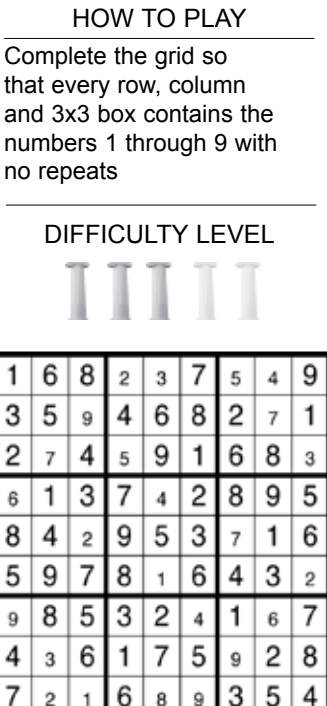
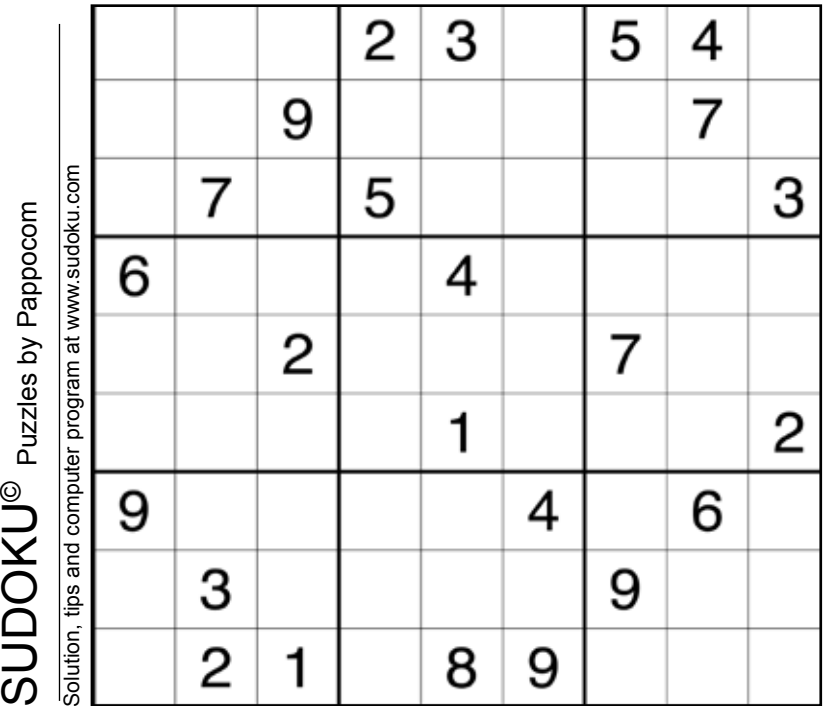
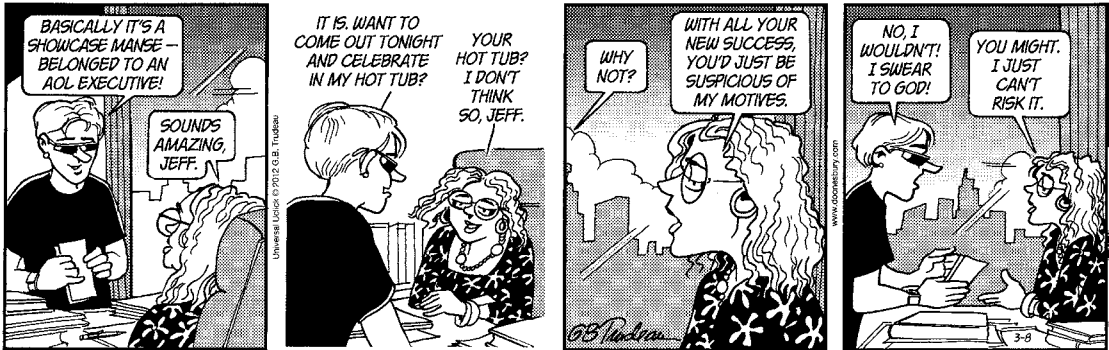
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**ACROSS**

- 1 Investigation
- 6 Do nothing
- 10 Feeling joyful
- 14 Less refined
- 15 Range in Asia
- 16 Tick off
- 17 Mercator's tome
- 18 Yukon, briefly
- 19 Revival shout
- 20 Bug repellent
- 21 Investigate (3 wds.)
- 23 Largest bird
- 25 Ankle opposites
- 26 Here, to Pierre
- 27 No-frills
- 29 Peaceful protest
- 32 Winter wear
- 33 Lightning by-product
- 36 Sunblock additive
- 37 City near Incheon
- 38 Hind's mate
- 39 To date
- 40 Lowered oneself
- 41 Alice's cat
- 42 Prepares food
- 43 Store-bought hair
- 44 Uncultivated
- 47 Drip catcher (2 wds.)
- 51 Hive product (2 wds.)

**DOWN**

- 1 Madrid museum
- 2 Loan figures
- 3 Young screecher
- 4 Dante's ideal
- 5 Pause fillers
- 6 Gate fastener
- 7 Dairy-case buy
- 8 Seniors' PAC
- 9 Network protector
- 10 Potatoes au —
- 11 VIP wheels
- 12 Kayak user
- 13 Fender mishaps
- 21 — -fi flick
- 22 Tall flower
- 24 I, to Fritz
- 27 Office bets
- 28 Unmannered one
- 29 The "merry month"
- 30 Malt beverage
- 31 Nonsense!
- 32 Calendar row
- 33 Fleming or McKellen
- 34 Mouths
- 35 Utmost degree
- 37 Deceptions (2 wds.)
- 38 Of noble family
- 40 — & the Gang
- 41 Morse click
- 42 Swank
- 43 Technique
- 44 Jacques, in song
- 45 Major artery
- 46 Ancient harps
- 47 Censor
- 48 Heap
- 49 Moving around
- 50 Giggle (hyph.)
- 52 Poet's black, once
- 57 Continent divider

**PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED**

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| S | T | A | T | A | R | T | A | E | G | E | A | N |

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| C | T | K | K | D | F | U | K | G | F | L | T | H | S | O | R | J | F | S | H | C | M |
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| Yorkshire Terrier  | Shih Tzu       | Shetland Sheepdog |
| Beagle             | Pug            | Welsh Corgi       |
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# Rebels open SEC Tournament play with NCAA Tournament hopes

BY DAVID HENSON  
dohenson@olemiss.edu

The Ole Miss men's basketball team tips off postseason play against the Auburn Tigers in the first round of the SEC Tournament tonight at 6:30 p.m. in New Orleans. The 10th-seeded Tigers are likely to see their season come to an end this weekend in New Orleans, barring a miracle run

in the SEC Tournament, while the 7th-seeded Rebels continue to fight to earn a spot in the NCAA Tournament next week. "We realize that if we want to play beyond this tournament, we need to win basketball games, and Thursday night presents an opportunity for us to do that," Ole Miss Head Coach Andy Kennedy said to the media Wednesday in New Orleans.

When asked if there was a specific win total Ole Miss needs to get to, senior forward Terrance Henry said the answer was simple. "Just win, baby," he said. "We need, I don't really know a ballpark figure, but I'm guessing, two, three wins. Four would do it definitely, but two or three, I think."

If the Rebels are to make a deep run this weekend, they will have to do so without freshman guard Jelani Kendrick. It was announced Tuesday night that Kendrick would not make the trip with the team. On Wednesday, Kennedy spoke publicly about the situation for the first time since that decision. "It's a situation that's unfortunate, but he's not with the team and where we go in the future's yet to be determined," he said.

The players were asked how they will deal with Kendrick's suspension with SEC Tournament play starting Thursday. "We're a resilient group," Henry said. "We have been through a lot this year with Dundreous (Nelson) and the problems that we had with other things, with Jelani and injuries with Murphy. But you know, we fought through that."

The Rebels have won three in a row since losing to Tennessee in Knoxville and have played some



FILE PHOTO (AUSTIN MCAFEE) | The Daily Mississippian

Junior forward Murphy Holloway

of their best basketball of the season since that loss. "After that game, coach just told us, 'Y'all got to take ownership of this group, and if you want it, you know, just step up and win some games.' And that's what we did," junior forward Murphy Holloway said.

That vow has earned the team a spot firmly back on the bubble. To prevent that bubble from bursting,

it starts with taking care of Auburn tonight. The teams split their two previous meetings during the regular season with each team winning on their home court. Auburn won 69-68 in double-overtime, and Ole Miss won 61-54 in a game that was close throughout before the Rebels pulled away late.

See BASKETBALL, PAGE 5

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